

EUPITHECIA EGENARIA H.S. — AN ANCIENT RELIC? — Brigadier E. C. L. Simpson (*antea* pp. 33-34) suggests that the monks of Tintern Abbey imported saplings of small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*) from France for the benefit of their bees and brought in the pauper pug (*Eupithecia egenaria* Herrich-Schaffer) as a pupa in the soil surrounding the roots. For the monks to have introduced this tree would have been to take coals to Newcastle, for small-leaved lime is one of our most ancient trees and seems to have been dominant in our primeval forests (see Oliver Rackham, *Trees and Woodland and in the British Landscape*, 1976, etc.; Richard Mabey (*The Common Ground*, 1980, p. 70) says of it, "This little-known tree may have been the commonest in lowland climax forest") *E. egenaria*, likewise, is probably an indigenous species which was once widespread but has been made scarce by the felling of the foodplant which is not a tree of economic importance. However, pockets of small-leaved lime survive in many localities throughout Britain and its presence is often indicative of ancient woodlands (e.g. Bedford Purlieus) and of entomological diversity of species.

Until recently the leaf-miners of small-leaved lime (*Stigmella tiliae* (Frey) and *Bucculatrix thoracella* (Thunberg)) were regarded as west-country species (see Meyrick, 1928, pp. 851 and 816). In 1976 I wrote of *T. tiliae*, "Like its foodplant, it has a western distribution" (MBGBI I:245) — nonsense born of ignorance. Since then the number of vice-counties in which it has been reported has increased from seven to eighteen, including, in the east, all the seven comprising Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex. I know of fourteen localities for it in Essex alone. *B. thoracella* tells much the same story, but it is more local and I have only seven localities in Essex. The point is that if conspicuous species such as the leaf-miners were so long overlooked, the less obvious pugs (and hook-tips) are even more likely to have been missed. *E. egenaria* occurs in Suffolk: it may turn up in other counties, too, if ancient stands of the "little-known" small-leaved lime are located and searched. — A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AF. [Does the Scarce Hook-tip (*Palaeodrepana harpagula* Esper) still occur in East Anglia? One was recorded from Suffolk as having been taken many years ago at Stowmarket by Dr. Bree (see 1937, Morley, *The Lepidoptera of Suffolk*, 98-99) — J. M. C.-H.]

A SECOND LAMPRONIA FLAVIMITRELLA HBN. IN KENT. — Following the capture of the second specimen in Britain of *Lampronia flavimitrella* Hbn. at Hoads Wood on 24th May 1980 by J. M. Chalmers-Hunt (see *Ent. Rec.*, 92: 195), I planned a return visit for 1981, the first available opportunity being 21st May. The day was stormy and overcast with the sun trying very hard to break through. After an hours intensive search between about 1600 and 1700 hours at a time when concentration and anticipation were beginning to waver, a small moth was disturbed from the masses of